

5/11/1999

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USEPA Region 8  
Attn: Melanie Pullman, 8 ENF-T  
999 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 500  
Denver, CO 80202

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
Attn: David Akers, Section Manager Water Quality Control Division  
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South  
Denver, CO 80246-1530

To Whom It May Concern:

I am contacting you on behalf of the Town of Rico to inquire into the status of the St. Louis and Blaine Tunnel discharges near the Town of Rico. The Town is aware that these discharges are not actively treated or maintained at this time. Are the discharges exceeding state and federal effluent limitations for heavy metals, hazardous substances or other application limitations? If so, please describe the violations. Is the state or federal government pursuing any kind of enforcement action, and if so, what are the process, goals, and expected time frame?

Please be aware that the Town of Rico is currently starting a river corridor park project that will include study of the fish and aquatic habitat and potential fish habitat improvements. The stretch of the Dolores River and Silver Creek through Town is down stream of the effluent discharge points from the St. Louis and Blaine tunnels. It is important for our community and for the Town's river restoration efforts to know the status of these discharges. The Town is willing to coordinate or share any information gained by the Town with state and federal officials.

You may contact me if you have any response or questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

  
Eric James Heil

Cc: Rico Board of Trustees

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